

# Homophone Dominoes

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By Ewa Piechurska

My methodology students are often encouraged to devise their own teaching aids. This fills a definite need since there are few professional teaching aids on the Polish market-what we have is expensive and in need of adaptation. A specific concern of our students is to use spoken English accurately. For that reason there is an important role for pronunciation practice. This is clearly seen when I observe my students teaching styles.

One of my teacher trainees, Jacek Pieczykolan, invented an interesting pronunciation game called Homophone Dominoes that I would like to share here with my minor alterations. It is devised for intermediate to advanced students of English. A good thing about it is that it can be played by one student or in groups, depending on how the teacher wants to organise the classroom.

The idea of the game is based on a well known-word game-Picture Dominoes. Here, instead of pictures, there are definitions or descriptions. The task of the player is to identify the word and to find a match for it. The match is another word whose pronunciation is identical (a homophone), but in this case, the word is not given explicitly-only its definition is provided. For example, if the description on one domino is: "part of body above the hips"-the word is *waist* /weist/. If the student looking for its homophone identifies a domino with "items thrown away" ( *waste* ) written on it, the two dominoes are a good match. The winner of the game is the student or group that finishes first.

Three sets of the game are illustrated here. A set can be played by one to four students. The blank spaces opening and closing each set will enable the player to join sets and use several at once in one group. You can certainly add your own sets creating more groups. It would be quite convenient if the sets are in different colours, so that they do not get mixed up. The object of the game is to focus on pronunciation and have fun!

Set 1			
	part of body above hips	things no longer used	colour azure
sad	a man, masculine	letters, things sent by post	not divided
an opening or gap	no war	a part, a bit	past simple of "wear"
a struggle a flight	a road or a mehtod	to measure weight	

Set 2			
	to put into the grave	a small soft fruit	simple past of " throw"
across	to stop living	to paint, to change a colour	if
the condition of wind, rain....	simple past of "win"	single	simple past of send
a smell	to give up for money	a small room in a prison	

Set 3			
	advanced, elevated	to give someone a job	a question about a location
to have on one's body	an xpression of admiration	to speak to God (3rd person sing.)	the top of a room
fixing an emblem of wax	a fruit	two of them	simple past of "pass"
former	the rubber around a car's wheel	to become weak exhausted	

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